

Environmental Education

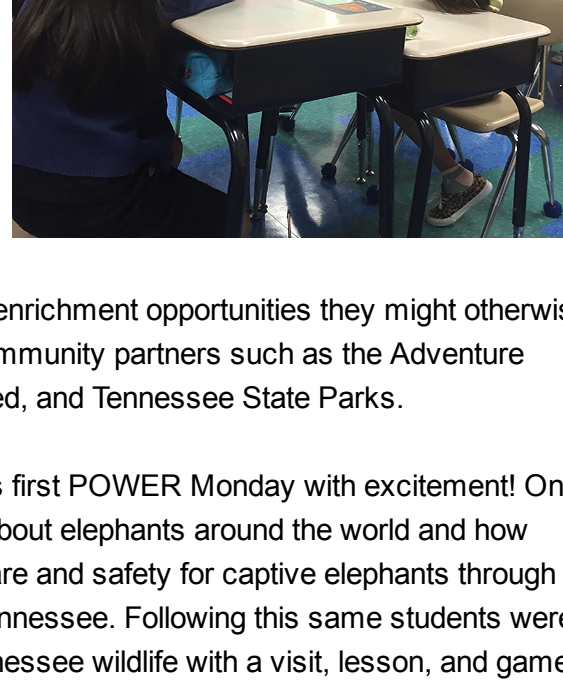
For Tomorrow's Stewards

October 2018

Educational Highlight

POWER Monday at Whitsitt Elementary School

Students from Nashville's Whitsitt Elementary School meet the third Monday of each month for POWER Monday! The three-hour event provides students with enrichment opportunities they might otherwise miss and are facilitated by community partners such as the Adventure Science Center, Plant the Seed, and Tennessee State Parks.

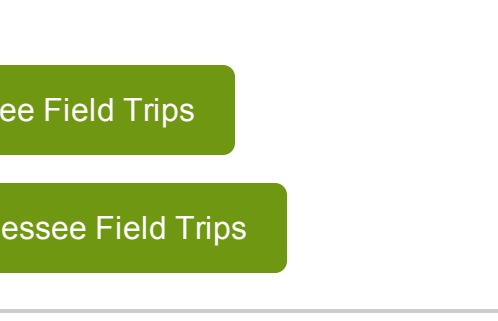


Students kicked off this year's first POWER Monday with excitement! One second grade class learned about elephants around the world and how Tennesseans are providing care and safety for captive elephants through The Elephant Sanctuary of Tennessee. Following this same students were able to focus in on native Tennessee wildlife with a visit, lesson, and game from Tennessee Park Rangers.

Congratulations to Whitsitt Elementary on a successful and meaningful monthly event!

This Month Is...

National Go on a Field Trip Month



School field trips provide memories that last a life time. Field trips engage students in active learning. A study from Saint Xavier University shows students using active learning techniques are more likely to be engaged in and motivated for learning, retain more new information, and even exhibit fewer behavioral issues.

Take time this month to explore a new field trip location!

[Tennessee Field Trips](#)

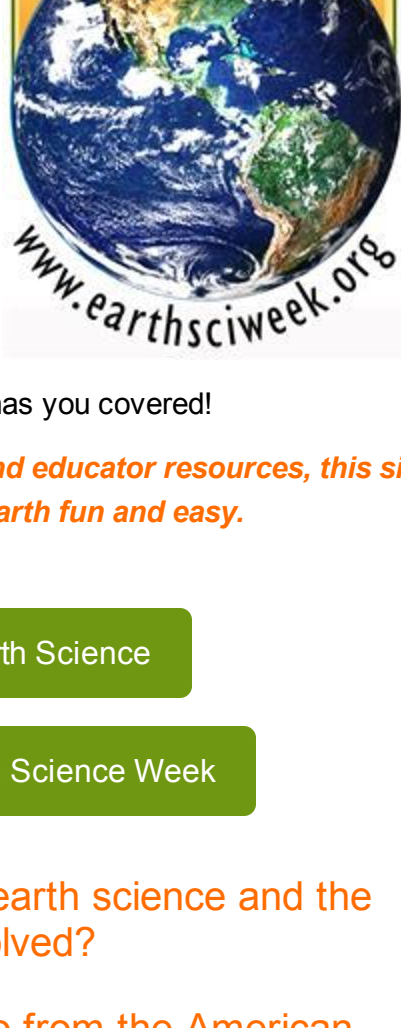
[Middle Tennessee Field Trips](#)

Don't Miss...

Earth Science Week

October 14 - 20

Since October 1998, the American Geosciences Institute has organized this national and international event to help the public gain a better understanding and appreciation for the Earth sciences and to encourage stewardship of the Earth. This year's Earth Science Week will celebrate the theme "Earth as Inspiration."



Whether you are looking to build your own classroom weather station, explore groundwater movement, or better understand karst, sinkholes, and human activity, the Earth Science Week website has you covered!

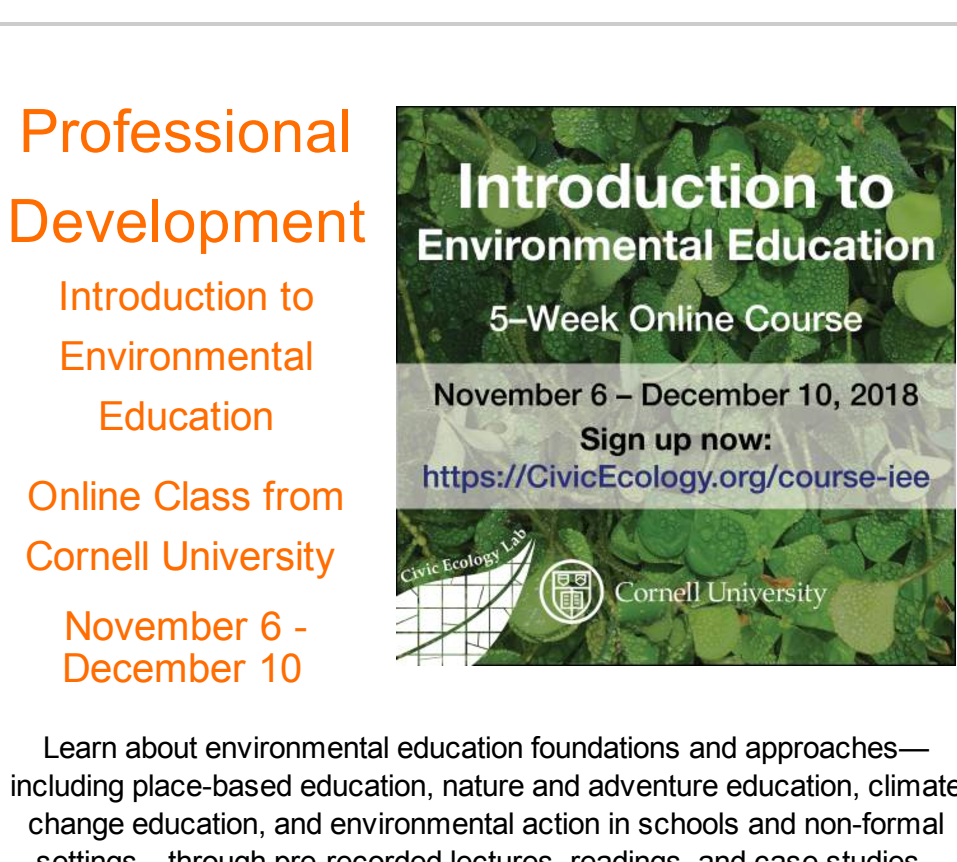
With hundreds of classroom lessons and educator resources, this site makes investigating our earth fun and easy.

[EE Resources: Earth Science](#)

[Learn More About Earth Science Week](#)

Want to better understand earth science and the careers involved?

Watch and share this video from the American Geological Institute, perfect for your classroom!

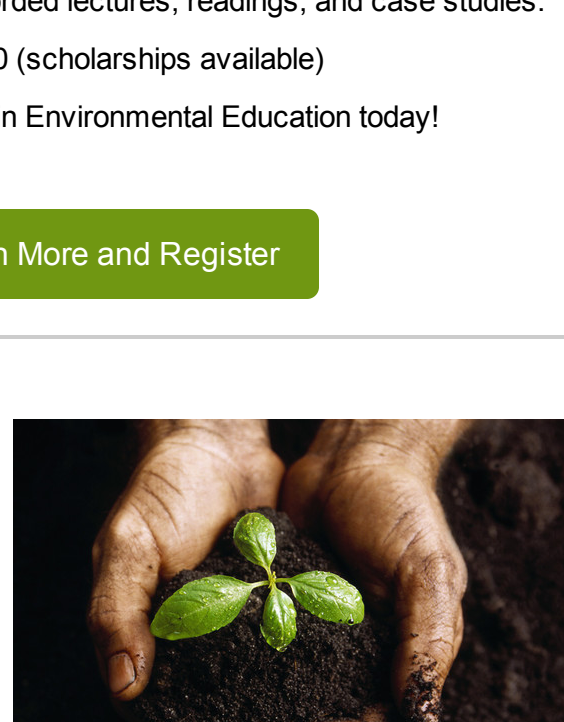


Professional Development

Introduction to Environmental Education

Online Class from Cornell University

November 6 - December 10



Learn about environmental education foundations and approaches—including place-based education, nature and adventure education, climate change education, and environmental action in schools and non-formal settings—through pre-recorded lectures, readings, and case studies.

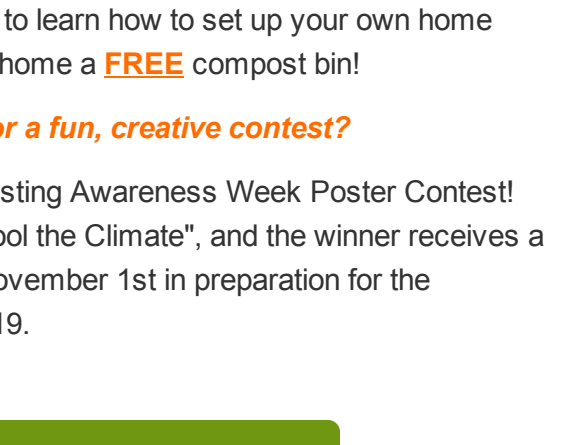
Cost: \$50 (scholarships available)

Earn a certificate in Environmental Education today!

[Learn More and Register](#)

Sustainability Corner

Composting



Composting is making a big comeback! In days past, composting your organic waste products was a common practice, especially for those in rural Tennessee areas. Then came the ease of throwing all your trash in a large can which when left out on the curb each week was magical emptied.

But composting is back, and it's back in a big way! Restaurants, homes, business, and even schools are composting. This month Tennessee's Department of Environment and Conservation begins is composting pilot program in 6 schools across the state. Understanding and practicing composting engages children and adults in not only environmental education, but reaches out to all subjects.

Interested in learning more?

Turnip Green Creative Reuse offers several opportunities for community members to learn more about composting. Join them at [945 Woodland Street](#) every [Saturday at 2pm](#) to learn how to set up your own home composting system and take home a **FREE** compost bin!

Looking for a fun, creative contest?

Enter the International Composting Awareness Week Poster Contest! Poster entries are themed "Cool the Climate", and the winner receives a \$500 prize! Entries are due November 1st in preparation for the International Week in May 2019.

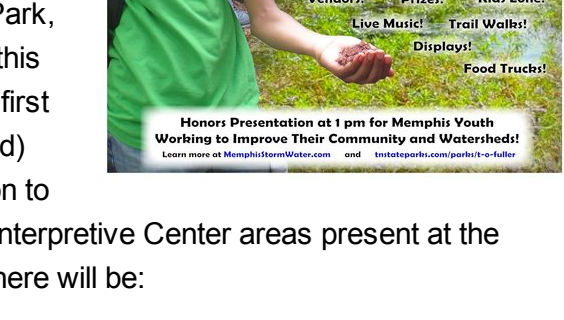
[EE Resources: Composting](#)

[Learn More About the ICAW Poster Contest](#)

Get Involved!

Tennessee STEAM Festival

October 12 - 21



The Tennessee STEAM Festival brings science, technology, engineering, art and math to life at events across the state!

The inaugural Tennessee STEAM Festival took place in October 2017. The Festival went well beyond the walls of children's museums and science centers and into our businesses, universities, schools, and neighborhoods. From families to young adults, Tennesseans of all ages and backgrounds interacted with scientists, engineers, and designers and just about every sort of expert in between.

[Discover a STEAM Event Near You](#)

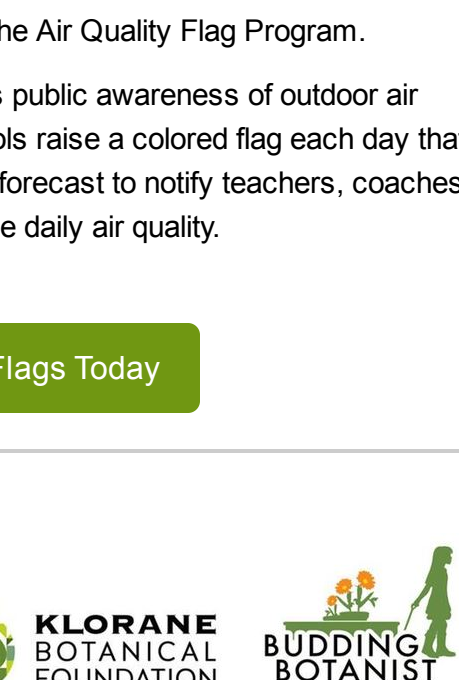
T.O. Fuller Green Fest

November 3

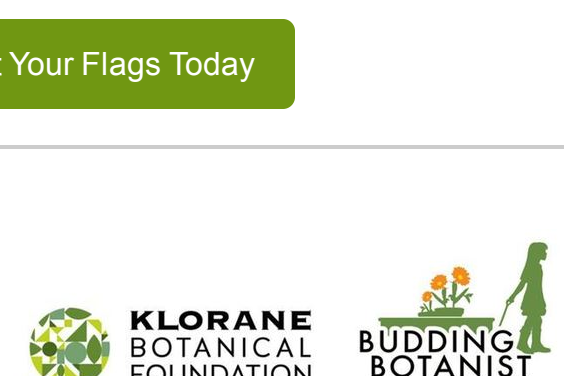
Memphis Storm Water and T.O. Fuller State Park are partnering to bring you a **FREE** family fun event called Green Fest! Originally called Fuller Fest and previously held in October by T.O. Fuller State Park, Green Fest is expanded with this partnership and moved to the first Saturday in November (the 3rd) from 10 am to 5 pm. In addition to the basketball, baseball, and Interpretive Center areas present at the location area of Green Fest, the event will be:

- Live music
- Food trucks
- Trail walks
- Up to 20 vendors, exciting booths, and displays
- Kids Activity Area

[Learn More About Green Fest](#)



Air Quality Flag Program



The American Lung Association in Tennessee has sets of colored flags, promotional materials, toolkits, and corresponding curriculum available for FREE for Tennessee schools interested in participating in the Air Quality Flag Program.

The Air Quality Flag Program creates public awareness of outdoor air quality conditions. Participating schools raise a colored flag each day that corresponds with the local air quality forecast to notify teachers, coaches, students and the community about the daily air quality.

[Get Your Flags Today](#)

Show Me the

Grant!

Budding Botanist



If you teach at a K-12 Title 1 public or charter school in the U.S. and are planning a new or expanding an existing school garden program to teach students about environmental sustainability and the importance of biodiversity, you are eligible to apply for a grant package valued at \$3,000. This grant is designed to help our youngest citizens learn about plants, explore their world, and inspire them to take care of the life they discover in their local ecosystems.

[Apply by November 19](#)

Sarah Green

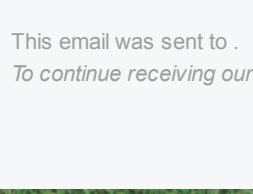
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